

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/04/2015
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0821 RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Amends or repeals provisions of Chapters 302A and 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as related to early childhood education, for housekeeping and other purposes.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports HB 821. The Department recognizes the importance of early childhood education, as well its impact upon our children's future outcomes and the state's economic growth.

HB 821 proposes to allow the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) to expend federal funds. The Department suggests that a formula be developed to determine the amount of federal funds to be allocated for the purpose of early childhood education due to specific federal fund expenditure requirements and limitations.

HB821

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanya Abalos	Hawaii State Teachers Association	Support	No



February 3, 2015

To: Chair Roy Takumi
Vice-Chair Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Deborah Zysman, Executive Director
Good Beginnings Alliance

RE: Testimony **in support of HB821**: Relating to Early Childhood Education; Housekeeping

Good Beginnings Alliance is in support of HB821, an important housekeeping measure relating to early childhood education.

This measure will correct two critical issues:

- 1) It defines “early childhood education” as” a developmentally appropriate early childhood development program for children from birth until the time they enter kindergarten.” This is important to ensure proper boundaries between the role of Executive Office on Early Learning and the role of Department of Education for K-12 instruction.
- 2) It clearly defines that the Executive Office on Early Learning has the authority to use and expend federal funds for the purpose of early childhood education.

These housekeeping measures are critical to insure that the Executive Office on Early Learning is able to function effectively and serve our youngest children.

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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
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House Committee on Education
Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
Representative Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair

February 4, 2014

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for HB821, which amends or repeals provisions of Chapters 302A and 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as related to early childhood education, for housekeeping and other purposes.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

We support all the changes being proposed in HB821 relating to early education, in particular, the change in the definition of "early childhood education" to mean a developmentally appropriate early childhood development and education program for children from birth until the time they enter kindergarten. We understand that currently there are some definitions that say from birth to age eight, which becomes confusing because it overlaps with the Kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12) system. The change would allow clarity in statute, and allow for more efficient and effective handling of early education programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support of this bill represents a 75% consensus or more of our membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

Academy 21
After-School All-Stars Hawaii
Alliance for Place Based Learning
*Castle Complex Community Council
*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS
Center for Civic Education
Coalition for Children with Special Needs
*Faith Action for Community Equity
Fresh Leadership LLC
Girl Scouts Hawaii
*Good Beginnings Alliance
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars
*Hawai'i Charter School Network
*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
*Hawaii State PTSA
Hawai'i State Student Council
Hawai'i State Teachers Association
Hawai'i P-20
Hawai'i 3Rs
Head Start Collaboration Office
It's All About Kids
*INPEACE
Joint Venture Education Forum
Junior Achievement of Hawaii
*Kaho'omiki
Kamehameha Schools
Kanu Hawai'i
*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council
Keiki to Career Kaua'i
Kupu A'e
*Leaders for the Next Generation
Learning First
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds
Our Public School
*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning
*Parents and Children Together
*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Punahou School PUEO Program

Teach for America

The Learning Coalition

US PACOM

University of Hawai'i College of Education

YMCA of Honolulu

Voting Members () Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*

Testimony To
The House Committee on Education

Wednesday, February 4, 2015
2:00 pm
Room 309

Re: HB 821 – Related to Early Childhood Education

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice-chair Ohno and Members of the Committee:

My name is Robert G. Peters and I am a recently retired Head of an independent school in Honolulu which has a pre-K program. Over the past 10 years, I have served as a member of the Early Learning Task Force, the Early Learning Council and the Early Learning Advisory Board. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 821, A Bill for an Act Relating to Early Childhood Education which amends or repeals various provisions of chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

I urge the Committee to move this bill forward. It defines early childhood education as both developmentally appropriate and covering the period from birth until kindergarten entry aligning with the mission of the Executive Office on Early Learning and distinguishing the EOEL mission from that of the Department of Education which addresses K – 12 education.

In addition, HB 821 allows for the use and expending of federal funds for early childhood education by the Executive Office on Early Education. Both provisions help to clarify the place of early learning in an overall state-wide system.

February 4, 2015

To: Representative Roy Takumi, Chair of the House Committee on Education,
and Members of the House Committee on Education

From: GG Weisenfeld
Wimmie Wong Lui

RE: H.B. No. 821, Relating to Early Childhood Education

Chair Takumi and members of the House Committee on Education:

I, along with Wimmie Wong Lui, am presenting testimony regarding H.B. No. 821, Relating to Early Childhood Education, the purpose of which is to amend or repeal provisions of Chapters 302A and 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as related to early childhood education, for housekeeping and other purposes.

We are both private citizens who are interested in advancing early learning in our state.

This bill creates a definition of “early childhood education” that is consistent with the early learning system the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) is tasked with developing pursuant to Section 302L-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The bill ensures the term “early childhood education” is used consistently throughout statute.

H.B. 821 also clarifies that the mission of EOEL is the education of children from birth until the time they enter kindergarten, while the mission of the Hawaii Department of Education is that of children from kindergarten through grade 12.

We are therefore in support of H.B. No. 821. We urge the committee to pass this bill, moving it forward for further consideration.

Thank you.

GG Weisenfeld
193 Pauahilani Place
Kailua HI 96734

Wimmie Wong Lui
724 Prospect Street
Honolulu HI 96813